

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting

February 21, 2008
Snow College Richfield

Attendance: John Fullmer, Wayne Shamo, Robert Depoe, Mike Beacco,

DWS Staff: Ann Barnson, Michelle Harrison, Jolene Bundy

Minutes: Jolene Bundy

Welcome: Mike Beacco
Mike welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were presented. Wayne made a motion to approve them. Robert seconded the motion. They were approved by those in attendance.

New Member: Ann reported there is a new member on the Youth Council. It is Steve Schofield. He works with the Iron County Adult Education Program. He was planning on being here today but was unable to make it.

Incentive Plan: Ann said the youth council has previously approved the incentive plan for the WIA program which awards the WIA youth with incentive money for meeting goals, for performing well, etc. She passed out a matrix with the activities and rewards. She said there have been a couple of changes she is asking for approval of.

- * If a student is below grade level in reading and math it adds an incentive if they raise one Education Functioning Level.
- * Under work related- It has an individual doing job shadowing could get \$6.00 per hour. They have added the \$10.00 making it from \$6.00 to \$10.00 per hour. She was asking for approval for these 2 changes.
- * Robert asked how many students utilize these incentives and how much money has been spent. Ann didn't know but said she would find out.
- * In the discussions Ann explained the incentives have to be written into the plan in the beginning, when the plan is first written. Mike asked how this could be better utilized with foster youth. He asked if this was the roll of the employment counselor to set this up because they haven't been doing it. Ann said the

counselor should be setting this up. There was a discussion on the roll of the counselor and what Mike could do to help with the process.

- * Robert said he has referred about a half dozen students to the WIA program but has never gotten even one on the program. The DWS counselor has not talked to any of them. He asked what they need to do to get the youth signed up. He said he feels it is imperative that someone talk to the youth when they go in to the office asking for help. If they are put off they probably won't come back a second time.
- * They talked about doing a pre-app or how to see that the students take the reading/math tests then see if they qualify for WIA. It was suggested an incentive bonus be given if they follow through with the application and enrollment process. It was decided to add *Eligibility Completion* and give them a \$50.00 bonus for follow through with the eligibility process. They suggested *Keeping appointments* could also be added to the incentive list.
- * The rescission on WIA funds was discussed and how it will affect the plans for WIA services. Ann said the Reality Store/Reality Town will still be held. They already had one in St. George. The rest are scheduled. Michelle will have hers in April. One will be coming up soon in Cedar City. The problem is with the loss of funds, they don't have the money to buy food.
- * Ann said the Reality store is going to be the Leadership project for the year and the council has to approve that.
- * Mike wondered about youth unable to attend if it is held during school hours. He said a big percentage of the youth from group homes are out of state youth. Ann said in St. George there weren't any school youth, only those from the group homes that attended.
- * The discussions were cut short because time ran out.

Before adjourning the meeting Ann passed out the Performance outcomes. She said it shows we are not meeting our performance outcomes in Western Region in the Literacy/Numeracy gain. John suggested targeting the basic entry level skills and say if a youth gets education up to the 9th grade they are able to get into a particular training program for an incentive.

Ann said we also need a work group to start mapping education and how to get the youth the education they need. This was to be a big

discussion but we are out of time. That will have to take place at the next meeting.

Wayne asked if he had a way to get some youth together on a Saturday if he could do a Reality Store for them. Ann said yes and to get with her.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: May 15, 2008